GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:824
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004
ROZGAR BADHAO STRATEGY
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has formulated a `Rozgar Badhao` Strategy to generate employment opportunities in the country with a view to tackle the country`s unemployment problem;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the role expected of the State Governments and the economic sectors of the country in the `Rozgar Badhao` strategy of the Government;

(d) the anticipated annual growth rate of employment with the implementation of the `Rozgar Badhao` Strategy; and

(e) the measures likely to be taken for growth of employment opportunities and the sectors/areas likely to be affected under the `Rozgar Badhao` strategy?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

(a) to (e): The growth strategy of the Tenth Plan lays emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are most likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which hinder growth of employment. The Approach to the Mid-Term Appraisal of Tenth Plan has reiterated the objective of the Plan that the employment growth should exceed growth of labour force to reduce the backlog of unemployment. In order to achieve the objectives the strategies advocated include

-Promotion of public investment in rural areas
-Reforms in the financial sector for higher investment in the Small and Medium Enterprises.
-Unleashing the potential of large-scale employment creation in the Construction sector, especially in urban areas.
-Improvements in infrastructure for expansion in private investment.
-Support to services industry, including software and all IT enabled services, trade, distribution, transport, telecommunication, finance and tourism.
-Greater focus on agro-processing and rural services.

2. Various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes are also being implemented in the country for the generation of employment.

3. The proposal to enact a Central legislation for the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which aims to enhance livelihood security to poor households in rural areas by providing atleast 100 days of guaranteed wage employment to every poor household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work is under consideration of Government. Also a National Food for Work Programme has been launched on 14-11-2004 in 153 backward districts with a view to provide an employment assurance of atleast 100 days per family in these areas.

4 . It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to design and implement programmes for employment generation. However, the pace and pattern of employment generation in the country depends on the rate and structure of the overall growth in the economy.